

UMFA DOCENT HISTORY: Fall 1976-Spring 1977

The Utah Museum of Fine Arts Docent Group had its beginnings in a meeting held in the Fall, 1976. Ann Day, Museum Educator, and Jean Mueller, Development Officer, met with volunteers interested in serving the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. The need for docents had been announced in the Salt Lake Tribune Volunteer Corner.

Ann Day was hired as Curator of Education in April 1976 when the need was seen for a museum educator "...to make the Museum and its programs, and also the University better known to the state at large." (see attached letter). At that time Ann Day was Director of Education at Waterloo, Iowa Arts Center and Vice-chairperson of Federal/State Partnership Program Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts.

According to Ann Day, "It struck me that the greatest single aid to forming a corps of docents was the fact that the Museum was a part of an art department which could provide docents with¹ the instruction necessary and the incentive of University credit." The art department agreed to providing this help, and the docent training program was in operation by early 1977.

The first course was Dr. Lennox Tieney's "Survey of Art History" taught in the University Department of Art History. In addition docents met on Thursdays with Ann Day for instructions on touring.

First Docents In Training:

Marilyn Barker
Elyse Hutton
Patricia Johnson
Margaret McMain

Peggy Nelson
Ruth Roby
Constance Theodore

ANN E. DAY

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Ringwood, NJ 07456

Phone: (201) 962-9045

Education: B.A. Mt. Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts, magna cum laude,
Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Arts Administrative Experience:

1982-88: Art History Lecture Series, YMHA of Northern New Jersey

1987-88: Education Consultant, Center for African Art, 54 East 68th. St., New York, NY 10021 - creation of a Museum Kit for NYC schools 6th. grades consisting of objects, slides, teacher manual, exercises and games to prepare students for series of museum visits. Kit creation funded by grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.

1988: Consultancy with Beverly Arts Center, Chicago to determine new directions for arts programming, funding sources, staffing etc.

1976-80: Curator of Educational Services, Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, Utah

1967-76: Education Director, Waterloo Recreation and Arts Center, Waterloo, IA

1962-67: Asst. to the Director, Advanced Studies Program, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado

Services to the Field:

1986-88: Board Member, Summerfun Theatre, Montclair, NJ.

1988: Board Member, Hakoshima Mime Theatre, Montclair, NJ

1987-88: Board Member, Friends of Music, Ringwood, NJ

1985-86: Art Committee, Salmagundi Club, New York City, NY

1980-85: Board Member, Orpheus Chamber Singers, Montclair, NJ

1972-77: Vice-Chairman, Federal/State Partnership Panel, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC

1975-77: Executive Committee, National Assembly of Community Arts Agencies, Washington, D.C.

1977-79: Board Member, Salt Lake City Council for the Arts, UT

1978-79: Board Member, Salt Lake City Design Board (% for the Arts) UT

1978-79: Panel Member, Community Arts, Utah State Arts Council

1975-76: Panel Member, Community Arts, Iowa State Arts Council

1975-81: Program Design Consultant, Tarble Arts Center, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AS WATERCOLORIST

First Prize (\$500) Award, New Jersey Watercolor Society Annual 1987

Third Prize Award, New Jersey Watercolor Society Members Show 1987

THE MUSEUM'S PURPOSE AND SERVICES

The Museum of Fine Arts serves two major publics: the students and faculty of the University community and the diverse population of the city and state. The Museum offers many education services, making it a genuine resource to the community and state. These services are supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C., the Utah Endowment for the Humanities, the Utah Arts Council, the Salt Lake Council for the Arts, and private individuals through membership in the Society of Museum Associates.

The important public services of the Museum's Department of Education, under its curator, Ann Day, are:

Museum on the Road. A series of 15 to 20 travelling exhibits from the collections of the Museum are available, free of charge, to other university galleries, churches, libraries, schools, arts councils, and other organizations. The MUSEUM ON THE ROAD exhibits have been seen in over 115 sites in the state and 12 sites in the region, including new engagements at the University of Northern Iowa Art Gallery, and Eastern Montana College in Billings. Each exhibit is accompanied by educational background material.

Teacher Resource Center. A new program, the Teacher Resource Center, makes available to teachers 100 objects from the Museum's collection for use in the classroom. The objects available include prints, drawings, paintings, sculptures, textiles, and ceramics, which are loaned on a short-term basis.

The Teacher Resource Center program will offer a summer course to help teachers develop the curriculum materials and techniques necessary for utilization of these resources in the classroom.

Museum Experience For Senior Citizens. A new program of tours, lectures, and receptions for Senior Citizens has been organized with partial funding by the Salt Lake Arts Council and the cooperation of the Utah Division of Aging. Free bus service is provided to senior citizen homes, recreation centers, and apartment complexes to bring people to the Museum every second Monday evening of the month.

In addition, slide lectures on the Museum's collections are given in nursing homes by the Museum staff, after which handicapped seniors are brought to the Museum by ambucar.

Docent Training Course. A docent training program has been designed in cooperation with the Division of Continuing Education. Thirty volunteers are currently enrolled in this University credit art history offering, most of whom will assist Museum staff with tours of school children and adults in the near future.

Public Information. The Curator of Education gives many talks to a wide range of meetings in the community: PTA groups, social and educational groups, continuing adult education classes, and many church organizations. These talks include art history discussions supported by slides of the Museum and its collections. Annually, the Museum staff guides over 8,000 school children through the Museum's galleries and special temporary exhibits.



Ann Day, Curator of Education, discusses Indian sculpture with a touring school group. Docents conduct 8000 museum visitors through the Museum annually.